

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT
FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2003 – 1000 MST
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 1**

CURRENT SITUATION:

Initial attack activity was light across the nation. Nationally, 465 new fires were reported for the week ending January 31st. Three new large fires were reported, two in the Southern Area and one in the Eastern Area. Two large fires were contained, one each in the Southern and Eastern Areas. Very high fire indices were reported in California.

Twenty-one firefighters, a suppression liaison, an infrared aircraft and two infrared technicians were mobilized to Melbourne, Australia, on January 27th to provide assistance to fire suppression efforts.

NEWCASTLE, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA. A Type 1 Incident Management Team (Martin) was mobilized in response to the recent outbreak of the Exotic Newcastle disease in Las Vegas, NV. The Incident Management Team is working in support of the USDA APHIS operation under a unified command. Planned actions include continued surveillance and assessment of the disease outbreak, clean up and disinfections of affected premises, and public education about the outbreak. State and Federal personnel are also assisting in southern California. No new information was received.

SOUTHERN AREA LARGE FIRES:

LITTLE HELLHOLE, Francis Marion and Sumpter National Forests. This fire is located near Bethera, SC. The fire is burning in pocosin and southern rough. Wind speeds of 15 miles per hour were observed and temperatures in the high 60's.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
LITTLE HELLHOLE	SC	FMF	1,834	80	02/02	20	0	3	1	0	20K
AKINS	OK	OKS	160	100	---	0	0	0	0	0	NR

OKS = Oklahoma Division of Forestry

EASTERN AREA LARGE FIRES:

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
BORTH FIRE	WI	WIS	400	100	---	0	0	0	0	0	NR

WIS = Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

OUTLOOK:

An area of low pressure will move through the Ohio River Valley today while another low moves off the Atlantic coast. The combination of these two features will keep the eastern half of the Southern Area cloudy, and light rain or drizzle will keep minimum relative humidity high. The system moving through the Ohio Valley will keep the chance for light precipitation in the forecast for Kentucky and Virginia over the weekend, while the rest of the region enjoys a dry and mild weekend.



www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/index_j.asp

FIRE SHELTER SITE SELECTION

The primary objective of every operational fire plan is to keep firefighters out of an entrapment situation. However, firefighters must always be prepared for the possibility of having to deploy their fire shelters. The key to a successful fire shelter deployment is proper site selection. Consider the following when discussing shelter deployment site selection:

- Pick a site that will keep the fire shelter away from flames and convective heat. It should also limit the amount of radiant heat that reaches the shelter

- Select an area with no fuels, or if that isn't possible, select a site in light fuels such as grass where the flaming front passes quickly. Clear the site to mineral soil if at all possible. If time is critical, pick a site with the least fuel.

- Pick natural firebreaks (e.g., wet meadows; creek beds; wet, swampy areas; large rockslides with no fuels). Note that rough terrain in rockslides may make obtaining an effective seal impossible, thus making the site unacceptable.

- Areas on the lee side of ridge tops and knobs can be effective deployment sites because convective heat and flames will generally continue rising above them.

- Wide areas that have been cleared of fuel such as dozer lines or roads can be effective deployment sites. In larger areas, don't let trucks, dozers, and other equipment occupy the best deployment sites.

- Flat areas on slopes, such as benches or road cuts, offer some protection from radiant and convective heat. Level areas like these can keep you below the path of flames and convective heat. The ditch on the inside of the road, if free of fuel, can improve the effectiveness of deploying in a road cut.

- Avoid areas that tend to funnel smoke, flames, and hot gases.
 - Narrow draws
 - Chutes
 - Chimneys
 - Saddles on ridge tops

- Know how long it takes to reach your safety zone. Crew supervisors should identify and communicate likely escape routes and safety zones.

FIRES AND ACRES LAST WEEK:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES					9	2	11
	ACRES					0	1	1
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						1	1
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						1	1
Southern Area	FIRES	7				436	9	452
	ACRES	422				2,461	1,575	4,458
TOTAL	FIRES	7	0	0	0	445	13	465
	ACRES	422	0	0	0	2,461	1,578	4,461

FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES					13	1	14
	ACRES					4	0	4
Southern California	FIRES		1			51	18	70
	ACRES		1			54	5	60
Northern Rockies	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					29		29
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		1					1
	ACRES		0					0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	1	1			8	4	14
	ACRES	0	1			11	1	13
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	2	1				1	4
	ACRES	0	0				14	14
Eastern Area	FIRES					92	5	97
	ACRES					669	65	734
Southern Area	FIRES	11		4		1,703	45	1,763
	ACRES	1,043		355		14,389	2,177	17,964
TOTAL	FIRES	14	4	4	0	1,868	74	1,964
	ACRES	1,043	2	355	0	15,156	2,262	18,818

Eight Year Average Fires	1,438
Eight Year Average Acres	20,818

Averages are computed from data reported to NICC during the last reporting period in January

and

Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments

PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES LAST WEEK:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES		12				4	16
	ACRES		629				152	781
Northern California	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						15	15
Southern California	FIRES						2	2
	ACRES						2,559	2,559
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES			1			3	4
	ACRES			100			74	174
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES			11	2		47	60
	ACRES			2,953	8,100		38,207	49,260
TOTAL	FIRES	0	12	12	2	0	58	84
	ACRES	0	629	3,053	8,100	0	41,007	52,789

PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES	3	50	1			25	79
	ACRES	4	2,488	200			972	3,664
Northern California	FIRES		2	1			10	13
	ACRES		13	212			508	733
Southern California	FIRES						20	20
	ACRES						4,269	4,269
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	1					33	34
	ACRES	20					544	564
Rocky Mountain	FIRES			1			5	6
	ACRES			100			85	185
Eastern Area	FIRES					2	9	11
	ACRES					1,200	905	2,105
Southern Area	FIRES	2		52	3	19	227	303
	ACRES	134		15,744	8,125	19,458	180,317	223,778
TOTAL	FIRES	6	52	55	3	21	329	466
	ACRES	158	2,501	16,256	8,125	20,658	187,600	235,298

*** Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. ***

WFU FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

***** Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. *****

RESOURCES STATUS: COMMITTED RESOURCES

AREA	CREWS FED	CREWS ST/OT	ENGS FED	ENGS ST/OT	HELI FED	HELI ST/OT	AIRT FED	AIRT ST/OT	OVRHD FED	OVRHD ST/OT
Alaska										
Northwest										
Northern California										
Southern California				7						58
Northern Rockies										
Eastern Great Basin										
Western Great Basin										
Southwest										
Rocky Mountain										
Eastern Area										
Southern Area			6	2	2				8	2
Total	0	0	6	9	2	0	0	0	8	60

***** NATIONAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATION CENTER *****